

Application No.: 09/422,387

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Docket No.: 02559/100F420-US1

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to express their gratitude to the Examiner for the courtesies extended in conducting an Examiner Interview on November 20, 2003, with Applicants' attorneys, Pierre R. Yanney and Richard J. Katz. During the interview, claim 7 was discussed with respect to U.S. Patent No. 6,020,884 to MacNaughton et al. ("MacNaughton"). This amendment is being filed to expand upon the substance of the Examiner Interview, while addressing each specific rejection of the claims.

Status of the Claims

Claims 7-11, 14, 15 and 20 are pending. Claims 7, 14 and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 7-11, 14, 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by MacNaughton. Amended claims 7, 14 and 15 now recite the feature of a user designating "a monitored website" and the feature of transmitting usage data to the user "when the user is connected to any other website on the communication network." Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 7, 14 and 15 distinguish over MacNaughton.

Amended claims 7, 14 and 15 recite the feature of "receiving, from a user, a designation of the first website as a monitored website." The Specification at page 46, line 20 through page 47, line 22, discloses that a user may designate a website and instruct the invention to monitor usage of the website. In contrast, MacNaughton discloses dedicated Community Home Pages which are predetermined and associated with particular web sites. (MacNaughton, column 6, lines 35-61.) The Home Pages disclosed in MacNaughton cannot be designated by the user.

Additionally, amended claims 7, 14 and 15 recite the feature of "transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window when the user is connected to

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any other website on the communication network." In contrast, MacNaughton discloses transmitting information regarding activity on the Home Page to users upon entering the community (i.e., while connected to the Home Page). (MacNaughton, column 9, lines 34-38.)

Claims 8-11 and 20 depend from claim 7, and Applicants submit that claims 8-11 and 20 are patentable over MacNaughton for at least the same reasons set forth above for claim 7. Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated September 5, 2003 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 7-11, 14, 15 and 20 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: December 5, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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